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EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

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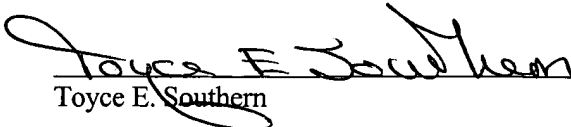
Date of Deposit : June 14, 2001

Type of Document(s) : Petition To Establish Prior Receipt In The P.T.O.
Of Item(s) Considered As Omitted By The P.T.O.—
Response To "Notice Of Omitted Items" (*In Duplicate*);
Copy of "Notice of Omitted Items";
Photocopy of the Return Postcard;
Page 18 of the Specification;
Check No. 36186 in the amount of \$130.00;
and
Return Postcard.

Serial No. : 09/776,984

Filing Date : February 5, 2001

I hereby certify that the documents identified above are being deposited with the United States
Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated
above and are addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, ATTN: Office of Petitions,
Washington, D.C. 20231.

 (signature)
Toyce E. Southern

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
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| APPLICATION NUMBER | FILING/RECEIPT DATE | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 09/776,984 | 02/05/2001 | James Allen Ponasik, Jr. | 32887.205225 |

CONFIRMATION NO. 7664

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000005974975

Kilpatrick Stockton LLP
Bernard J. Graves, Jr., Esquire
3500 One First Union Center
301 South College Street
Charlotte, NC 28202-6001

Date Mailed: 04/16/2001

NOTICE OF OMITTED ITEM(S) IN A NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

A filing date has been accorded to the above-identified nonprovisional application papers; however, the following item(s) appear to have been omitted from the application:

- Page(s) 18 of the specification (description and claims).

I. Should applicant contend that the above-noted omitted item(s) was in fact deposited in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with the nonprovisional application papers, a copy of this Notice and a petition (and \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h))) with evidence of such deposit **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice. The petition fee will be refunded if it is determined that the item(s) was received by the USPTO.

II. Should applicant desire to supply the omitted item(s) and accept the date that such omitted item(s) was filed in the USPTO as the filing date of the above-identified application, a copy of this Notice, the omitted item(s) (with a supplemental oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 and 1.64 referring to such items), and a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 (with the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h)) requesting the later filing date **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice.

III. The failure to file a petition (and petition fee) under the above options (I) or (II) within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice (37 CFR 1.181(f)) will be treated as a constructive acceptance by the applicant of the application as deposited in the USPTO. **THIS TWO MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b).** In the absence of a timely filed petition in reply to this Notice, the application will maintain a filing date as of the date of deposit of the application papers in the USPTO, and original application papers (*i.e.*, the original disclosure of the invention) will include only those application papers present in the USPTO on the date of deposit.

In the event that applicant elects not to take action pursuant to options (I) or (II) above (thereby constructively electing option (III)), amendment of the specification to renumber the pages consecutively and cancel incomplete sentences caused by any omitted page(s), and/or amendment of the specification to cancel all references to any omitted drawing(s), relabel the drawing figures to be numbered consecutively (if necessary), and correct the references in the specification to the drawing figures to correspond with any relabelled drawing figures, is required. Any drawing changes should be accompanied by a copy of the drawing

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figures showing the proposed changes in red ink. Such amendment and/or correction to the drawing figures, if necessary, should be by way of preliminary amendment submitted prior to the first Office action to avoid delays in the prosecution of the application.

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*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Len T. at Es

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

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